REMARKS

The present application stands with claims 1 and 2 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the cited Yin et al. (Yin) patent. Claims 3-5 have been rejected under 35. U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yin in view of the cited Iwata patent. Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yin in view of the cited Gernert et al (Gernert) patent, and claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious of Yin in view of Gernert and further in view of the cited Kim patent. For the reasons discussed below, the amended claims above are believed to be neither anticipated by nor obvious over the references.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1 and 2 in view of Yin, amended claim 1 above is neither anticipated by nor obvious over Yin. The referred to values in Table 1 in Yin are specific target quality of service parameter values for different QoS classes of calls. Table 1 does not disclose each call having a service degradation descriptor that specifies the acceptable limits in possible degradation in quality for each call, or in other words, the permitted extent to which a quality of service requirement can be relaxed for each call. Further, Yin does not disclose or teach predicting "whether making the call connection would provide a degradation in quality of service to existing calls within the limits defined by service degradation descriptors of existing calls and to make that call connection if degradation to existing calls within the limits is predicted" as per amended claim 1. Also, none of the other cited art discloses or teaches the claimed invention of claim 1. Accordingly, amended claim 1 and its dependent claims 3, 4, and 5 are now believed to be allowable.

Claim 6 has been amended in a manner similar to the amendment made to claim1. The recitation in amended claim 6 of a connection admission controller that "is arranged to accept the requesting call only when the quality of service in the descriptor can be provided, each quality of service descriptor comprising a service degradation descriptor which specifies acceptable limits in degradation of quality of service, the connection admission controller being

configured to predict whether making the call connection would provide a degradation in quality of service to existing calls within the limits defined by service degradation descriptors of the existing calls and to make that call connection only if degradation to existing calls within the limits is predicted" clearly distinguishes the claim over the cited Yin and Gernert references. None of the other cited references discloses or teaches the invention as claimed by amended claim 6. Amended claim 6 and its dependent claim 7 are therefore believed to now be allowable.

For the reasons discussed above, each of the claims presently in the application is believed to be in a condition for allowance. Passage to issue of the subject application is therefore respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that the present application is not yet in a condition for allowance and that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at **973, 386 8252**.

Respectfully submitted,

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